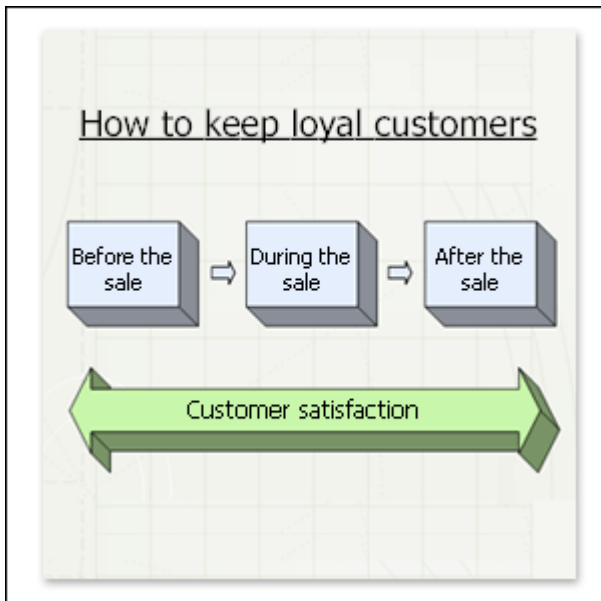# Quick Reference Card - A quick introduction to block diagrams

To start creating a block diagram

1. On the **File** menu, point to **New**, and then click **Choose Drawing Type**. Under **Category**, click **Block Diagram**, and then under **Template**, click **Block Diagram**, **Block Diagram With Perspective**, or **Basic Diagram**.

2. On the **View** menu, make sure that **Connection Points** is selected, so that they are visible as you work.

3. Drag shapes onto the drawing page.

4. Using 1-D arrows, connect the shapes. For example, drag the **1-D single, open** arrow shape onto the drawing page and place the left endpoint ⊠ on a connection point ✕ of a shape. Then drag the right endpoint of the arrow onto a connection point of another shape. When the arrow is connected to both shapes, both its endpoints turn red.

Additional resources

There is much more you can do with block diagrams. You can make onion diagrams, for example, or tree diagrams. You might have noticed in the practice session that the difference between 1-D and 2-D shapes is also important. For more information on these subjects, take a look at these additional resources:

[Create an onion diagram](#)

[Create a tree diagram](#)

[About shapes](#)